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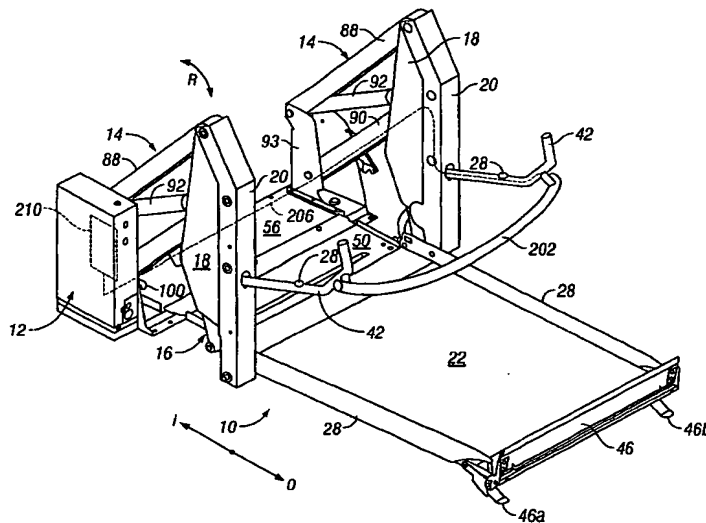
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(54) Title: SAFETY BELT SYSTEM FOR WHEELCHAIR LIFTS



(57) Abstract: A vehicle access system for moving a passenger between the vehicle and ground. Some embodiments have an electrical system, a motive source (12) coupled to the electrical system, an arm (14) coupled to the motive source (12), a platform (22) coupled to the arm (14), and a safety restraint system (202) coupled to the electrical system and the platform (22). The vehicle access system has at least a vehicle access position and a ground access position, wherein the passenger can safely access the platform (22) at either access position. The platform (22) is unable to move from either access position until the safety restraint system (202) is in place. Once operation of the access system has begun, it can continue to operate and move the passenger to one of the access positions even if the safety restraint system (202) is subsequently removed.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/00458

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : B66B 9/20

US CL : 414/546

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
U.S. : 414/546,540,556

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No.             |
|------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| X          | US 5,373,915 A (TREMBLAY) 20 December 1994 (20.12.1994), entire document.          | 1,4,5,7 and 24                    |
| ---        |  | -----                             |
| Y          |  | 2,8,9,12,13,15,17,18<br>and 20-22 |
| Y          | US 6,042,327 A (DELEO et al.) 28 March 2000 (28.03.2000) entire document.          | 2,3 and 16                        |
| Y          | US 6,238,169 B1 (DUPUY et al.) 29 May 2001 (29.05.2001), entire document.          | 6 and 19                          |
| Y          | US 6,077,025 A (BUDD et al.) 20 June 2000 (20.06.2000), entire document.           | 10,11,14,23                       |

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document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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